

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00

USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

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FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1640

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2376

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PASS AGRICULTURE FRO NOVOTNY, FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC

SUBJECT: ADVANCE FIXING OF GRAIN IMPORT LEVIES

REF: HAGUE 3979

1. COMMISSION OFFICIALS AND MEMBER STATE/PERMDELS CONFIRM THAT THE COMMISSION IS NOW CONSIDERING EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR WHICH IMPORT LEVIES ON FEEDGRAINS MAY BE FIXED IN ADVANCE (CURRENTLY 30 DAYS).

THEY INDICATE THAT THE REQUEST FOR SUCH EXTENSION WAS INITIATED BY ITALY WHICH ASKED FOR A PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF 120 DAYS; THE ITALIANS FEEL THAT SUCH ACTION WILL HELP OFFSET THE HIGH FEED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DROUGHT. THIS REQUEST WAS DISCUSSED AT THE JULY 22 GRAINS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. OTHER MEMBER STATES BALKED AT AN EXTENSION OF THIS MAGNITUDE. THE COMMISSION PROPOSED INSTEAD THAT THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY FOR CORN AND SORGHUM (NOT REPEAT NO BARLEY) BE EXTENDED TO 2 MONTHS PLUS THE MONTH OF ISSUE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1, 1976; AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, IT WOULD BE SET AT 60 DAYS. REPORTEDLY, THIS PROPOSAL WAS

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ACCEPTABLE TO THE OTHER MEMBER STATES BUT ITALY ASKED FOR TIME

TO THINK IT OVER. IT WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN AT NEXT WEEK'S (JULY 29) GRAINS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. OUR SOURCES EXPECT AN EXTENSION OF THE ADVANCE FIXING PERIOD TO BE AGREED ON AT THAT TIME.

2. ANTICIPATION OF A POOR GRAIN CROP OWING TO WIDESPREAD DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN THE EC HAS SPURRED EC IMPORTS OF CORN VERY SUBSTANTIALLY IN PAST TWO MONTHS. IMPORT LICENSES FOR CORN ISSUED SINCE JUNE1 HAVE JUMPED BY MORE THAN 3 MILLION TONS-- FOM 10.1 TO 13.4 MILLION TONS. COMMISSION OFFICIALS IN THE GRAINS DIVISION DO NOT SEE THIS INCREASE AS BEING SPECULATIVE AND EXPECT THAT NEARLY ALL OF THE LICENSES WILL BE HONORED. DURING A COMPARABLE PERIOD OF 1974/75, ISSUANCE OF CORN IMPORT LICENSES INCREASED BY ONLY ABOUT 1.6 MILLION TONS (RISING FROM 9.4 TO 11.0 MILLION TONS).HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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